

# An Assessment of Gaps in Seattle's Open Space Network

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# **INTRODUCTION**

In Resolution Number 30181, which adopts Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000, Seattle Parks and Recreation was given the following direction by the Seattle City Council:

"b. By the end of 2000, DPR will submit a report to the Culture, Arts & Parks Committee with a review of the distribution guidelines and an inventory of the areas where the goals are met or not. The report should include recommended revisions to the Plan to update goals and policies and/or the six-year action plan included in the Plan, as appropriate."

In response to Resolution 30181, Seattle Parks and Recreation developed this report.

#### BACKGROUND

Seattle's Comprehensive Plan provides population and distribution-based goals for open space in Seattle's neighborhoods. The Plan's open space goals address open space at the citywide level and provide additional objectives for areas designated as urban villages. The Plan also outlines open space criteria that identify categories of open space, specifically, Breathing Room Open Space and Usable Open Space. Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000 offers more detailed definitions of these types of open space.

#### REPORT OBJECTIVES

This report has three objectives. First, it provides a review of the City's existing open space guidelines as found in the Comprehensive Plan and Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000. A second objective is to identify where gaps in the city's open space network exist. This is accomplished by mapping the Comprehensive Plan's population and distribution goals in accordance with the Plan's open space criteria for Breathing Room and Usable Open Space, and providing an assessment of these maps. Lastly, the report notes how the City is responding to these gaps.

# REVIEW OF SEATTLE'S OPEN SPACE DEFINITIONS, GOALS AND CRITERIA

#### **OPEN SPACE DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions are taken from Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000 and the City of Seattle's Comprehensive Plan.

#### **Breathing Room Open Space**

*Definition*: Combined acreage of all dedicated open spaces (parks, greenspaces, trails, and boulevards,) but not including tidelands and shorelands (submerged park lands.) *Offsets*: School grounds, green streets, boulevard, trail, etc.

#### **Usable Open Space**

Definition: Relatively level and open, easily accessible, primarily green open space available for drop-in use (can be part of larger citywide park space). Urban Village usable open space is additionally defined as "Publicly owned or dedicated open space that is easily accessible and intended to serve the immediate urban village. This encompasses various types of open space for passive enjoyment as well as activity and includes green areas and hard-surfaced urban plazas, street parks, and pocket parks. Dedicated open spaces should be at least 10,000 square feet in size."

Offsets: School grounds, recreation facilities, green streets, boulevards and trails.

#### **Greenspaces (Greenbelts and Natural Areas)**

Definition: Areas designated for preservation because of their natural or ecological qualities and their potential to contribute to an interconnected open space system. Desirable: Preserve such areas where they meet the designation criteria established in the Greenspaces Policies. Greenspaces are counted as breathing room, but such areas should be preserved regardless of relationship to distribution guidelines and existing amounts of open space.

#### **Offsets**

Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000 refers to offsets such as school grounds, recreation facilities, green streets, boulevards and trails in conjunction with the definitions of Breathing Room and Usable Open Space. Offsets, in this context, are meant as open spaces that may not be owned by Seattle Parks and Recreation that are still used or experienced similarly to City operated parks and greenspaces. While offsets are not considered as Breathing Room or Usable Open Space, they can provide open space for passive or active recreation or enjoyment and sometimes fill gaps in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space for residents who use the playground at their local school, stroll along a tree-lined boulevard or exercise indoors at a community center.

#### OPEN SPACE GOALS AND CRITERIA

Excerpted below are open space goals and criteria from the City of Seattle's Comprehensive Plan and Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000.

# **City Open Space Goals** (Seattle Comprehensive Plan and Seattle's Parks & Recreation Plan 2000)

	GOAL	AREA
BREATHING ROOM	Desirable: 1 acre per 100 residents	City-wide
OPEN SPACE	Acceptable: 1/3 acre per 100	
	residents	
USABLE OPEN SPACE	1/4 to 1/2 acre within 1/4 to 1/2	Areas outside Urban
	mile of every resident	Villages

# **Usable Open Space in Primarily Single Family Residential Areas**

(Seattle's Parks & Recreation Plan 2000)

SINGLE FAMILY USABLE OPEN SPACE	Desirable: 1/2 acre of Usable Open Space within 1/2 mile of Seattle households in primarily single-family	
	areas.	
	Acceptable: 1/2 acre within 1 mile of community	
	approved offset to lack of Usable Open Space.	

**Urban Village Open Space Goals** (Seattle Comprehensive Plan)

Ciban vinage O	Urban Village Open Space Goals (Seattle Comprehensive Plan)				
	URBAN	HUB URBAN	RESIDENTIAL URBAN		
	CENTER	VILLAGES	VILLAGES		
TIDDAN	VILLAGES	0 27777			
URBAN	One acre of	One acre of Village	Same as for Hub Urban		
VILLAGE OPEN	Village Open	Open Space per	Villages.		
SPACE	Space per 1,000	1,000 households.			
POPULATION	households.				
BASED GOALS	For the				
	downtown core				
	one acre of				
	Village Open				
	Space per 10,000				
	jobs.				
URBAN	All locations in	Same as for Urban	For moderate and high		
VILLAGE OPEN	the village	Center Villages.	density areas: All		
SPACE	within		locations within 1/8 mile		
DISTRIBUTION	approximately		of Village Open Space		
GOALS	1/8 mile of		that is between 1/4- and 1-		
	Village Open		acre in size, or within 1/4		
	Space.		mile of Village Open		
	-		Space that is greater than		
			1 acre. For low density		
			areas: All locations within		
			1/4 mile of any qualifying		
			Village Open Space.		
QUALIFYING	Dedicated open	Same as for Urban	Same as for Urban Center		
CRITERIA FOR	spaces of at least	Center Villages.	and Hub Villages.		
URBAN	10,000 square				
VILLAGE OPEN	feet in size,				
SPACE	publicly				
	accessible, and				
	usable for				
	recreation and				
	social activities.				
	At least one	At least one usable	At least one usable open		
	usable open	open space of at	space of at least one acre		
	space of at least	least one acre in size	in size (Village		
	one acre in size	(Village Commons).	Commons) where overall		
	(Village		residential density is 10		
	Commons) with		households per gross acre		
	growth target of		or more.		
	more than 2,500				
	households.				

# GAPS IN SEATTLE'S OPEN SPACE NETWORK

The intent of this assessment is to present maps that graphically measure how the City's goals and criteria for Breathing Room and Usable Open Space are or are not met. In order to accomplish this task, multiple maps showing the application of different types of Breathing Room and Usable Open Space were developed. This section explains the methodology utilized in producing these maps before proceeding to a discussion of gaps in Seattle's open space network.

#### METHODOLOGY

The following section describes how data was chosen and assembled into maps and how these maps should be used to assess gaps in Seattle's Breathing Room and Usable Open Space.

#### **Breathing Room Open Space**

Breathing Room Open Space is the City's population-based measure of the total amount of open space available for its resident population. The Seattle Comprehensive Plan sets the goal for Breathing Room Open Space at one acre per one hundred residents. Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000 further defines acceptable and desirable levels of Breathing Room Open Space, with the acceptable level considered to be one-third acre per 100 residents, and the desirable level set at the Comprehensive Plan's goal of one acre per one hundred residents. In this report, both the acceptable and the desirable levels of Breathing Room Open Space are used to gauge gaps in the city's overall amount of open space.

#### Population Data

While developing this report, population data from both the 1990 Census and population estimates developed by the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) for 1999 were reviewed. Interestingly, there was little change in the maps produced with these different data sources. In order to present the most current data possible, the map depicting gaps in Breathing Room Open Space was created with the PSRC's 1999 population estimates. For ease of measurement, this 1999 population data is integrated into the census tract boundaries developed for the 1990 Census.

#### Census Tracts and Breathing Room Open Space at Green Lake

It is important to note that the use of census tract boundaries as units of measurement is sometimes problematic. This is because census tracts provide only a quantitative representation of the relationships within their boundaries which may or may not accurately reflect the nature of relationships on the ground. An example of how census tracts sometimes distort the reality on the ground occurs in the case of Green Lake Park. In this report, census tract boundaries were respected in all calculations of Breathing Room Open Space except for one. The exception is open space in Green Lake's tract 46, which has been reapportioned to tracts 27 and 36 to the north and northeast of Green Lake respectively. The reason for these changes is that park lands in the north and

northeastern parts of tract 46 are not contiguous to any residents of that tract. In actuality, these areas of open space are adjacent to residents in tracts 27 and 36. Therefore, throughout this study, open spaces in the north and northeastern sections of tract 46 are counted as part of tracts 27 and 36.

#### What was Counted as Breathing Room Open Space

Breathing Room Open Space includes all types of open space including parks, natural areas and golf courses. In calculating the amount of Breathing Room Open Space in various census tracts, the following parks and other open spaces were counted.

- All Seattle Parks and Recreation owned open space including parks, golf courses, green belts, natural areas and conservation easements.
- Non-City owned dedicated open space, including open space owned by:
  - Army Corps of Engineers: Ballard Locks, Montlake Cut
  - Port of Seattle: Elliott Bay Park adjacent to Myrtle Edwards, public access at Terminals 5, 103 and 107 (including Kellogg Island) on the Duwamish.
  - King County: Ruby Chow Park adjacent to Boeing Field and South Park Farm in South Park.

Open space portions of Seattle Center were also categorized as "non-City open space".

#### What was Not Counted as Breathing Room Open Space

Park properties not counted as Breathing Room Open Space are listed below.

- Parks Department properties without open space amenities including community centers and pools without open space, eg. the Ballard Pool and Parks Department administrative and maintenance facilities.
- Parks Department properties that have not yet been developed into parks specifically Greenwood Greenhouse and the Wick property (Slippery Slope) next to the Fremont Library.
- Seattle School District, the University of Washington and Washington State community college open spaces were not counted. It should be noted, however, that the Parks Department has a joint-use agreement with the School District that allows for public use of school playgrounds and playfields during non-school hours. State owned university and college property is also open to the public.
- Shoreline street ends, some of which are open for public access, were not counted.

#### **Usable Open Space**

Usable Open Space is the City's distribution-based measure for open space. Usable Open Space can be summarized as dedicated open space that is relatively level, green, open and easily accessible. According to the Comprehensive Plan, the minimum size of Usable Open Space can range from one-fourth to one-half of an acre. (One-fourth of an acre is 10,890 square feet.) In the maps demonstrating Usable Open Space, parks that meet the criteria for Usable Open Space are surrounded by buffers that are equivalent to the

distances proscribed within the different Usable Open Space goals. Areas not covered by these buffers are outside of the service area of that particular type of Usable Open Space.

#### What was Counted as Usable Open Space

The following list describes the types of parks that were counted as Usable Open Space in this analysis.

- Parks in single family areas outside of urban village boundaries that are 1/2 acre or more.
- Parks in urban villages that are 1/4 acre (approximately 10,000 square feet) or more.
- Boulevards with park amenities, specifically portions of Lake Washington Boulevard and Magnolia Boulevard.

### What was Not Counted as Usable Open Space

The following list describes the types of parks that were not counted as Usable Open Space.

- Parks in single family areas outside of urban village boundaries under 1/2 acre.
- Parks in urban villages under 10,000 square feet (approximately 1/4 acre).
- Greenbelts and natural areas.
- The Burke-Gilman Trail.
- Boulevards without park amenities e.g. Queen Anne and Montlake boulevards.
- Seattle Public School grounds.
- Open space at the University of Washington and the State community colleges.
- Park property not yet developed as usable park space specifically, Greenwood Park and the Slippery Slope/Wick property in Fremont.

#### **How to Use the Maps**

The following section provides information for how to read the maps included in this report in order to better understand gaps in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in Seattle's neighborhoods.

#### Breathing Room Open Space Map

In the Breathing Room Open Space map, the darkened census tracts represent areas sufficient in Breathing Room Open Space and the white or empty tracts show the deficient areas. As noted previously, in some cases, census tract boundaries prevent Breathing Room Open Space from being counted, even when large parks or open space are immediately adjacent to residential populations in a neighboring tract. Some examples of this occur in tracts that are adjacent to Magnuson Park, Woodland Park and the West Seattle Golf Course.

#### Usable Open Space Maps

As seen in the review of the City's open space goals, there are multiple criteria for Usable Open Space. Although there are different gauges for Usable Open Space, ranging from the single family goal of providing 1/2 acre of Usable Open Space 1/2 mile from single family residents, to the Urban Center Village goal of 1/4 acre of Usable Open Space within 1/8 mile of village residents, a single map that shows gaps in Usable Open Space was developed that combines all of the criteria. Variations of this map are included in this report in order to highlight gaps at the citywide level and at the sectorwide level. The citywide map projection is useful when comparing the extent of gaps in Usable Open Space in different areas of the city. The sector maps provide more information than the citywide maps, such as arterials, zoning and the names of parks, in order to convey a clearer picture of gaps in Usable Open Space within particular neighborhoods.

- Single Family Usable Open Space Buffer: Because most residents in single family areas have at least some open space available to them within their own yards, the Usable Open Space goal for these neighborhoods is for the provision of fairly large park spaces of 1/2 acre or more to be within 1/2 mile of residents. To represent this open space goal graphically, a 1/2 mile buffer was created around parks of 1/2 acre or more to show Single Family Usable Open Space. This 1/2 mile buffer was clipped so that it does not include single family areas within urban villages, which have a separate set of open space criteria.
- <u>Urban Village Usable Open Space Buffers</u>: The Urban Village Usable Open Space goal for *Urban Center* and *Hub Urban Villages* specifies that all locations in the village should be within approximately 1/8 mile of village open space. For *Residential Urban Villages* the goal differs for higher and lower density areas. As stated in the Comprehensive Plan, "For moderate and high density areas: All locations within 1/8 mile of a Village Open Space that is between 1/4- and 1-acre in size, or within 1/4 mile of a Village Open Space that is greater than 1 acre. For low density areas: All locations within 1/4 mile of any qualifying Village Open Space."

Because of these varying Usable Open Space goals, the boundaries of Urban Center and Hub urban villages are a different color than those of Residential urban villages. Additionally, in order to present these multiple Usable Open Space goals on the maps, both 1/8 mile and 1/4 mile buffers were created around parks of 1/4 acre or more. In Urban Center and Hub urban villages, the parks' buffers were clipped so that only the 1/8 mile buffer is shown within their boundaries. In Residential urban villages, as described above, Usable Open Space can be within 1/8 to 1/4 mile depending on whether residents live in higher or lower density areas. To show gaps in Usable Open Space within Residential urban villages, both the 1/8 and 1/4 mile buffers are drawn within village boundaries, and zoning information is included on the

base map as a means of providing some guidance as to where higher and lower densities may exist and where the different buffers should be used.

#### **OPEN SPACE GAP ASSESSMENT**

The following open space gap assessment is presented as a series of maps and open space summaries which highlight where gaps exist in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in each of the City's six sectors. A list of the maps created for this report appears below.

## **Map List**

<i>Map 1:</i>	Gaps in Breathing Room Open Space
<i>Map 2:</i>	Gaps in Usable Open Space
<i>Map 3:</i>	Gaps in Usable Open Space in the Northwest Sector
<i>Map 4:</i>	Gaps in Usable Open Space in the Northeast Sector
<i>Map 5:</i>	Gaps in Usable Open Space in the West Sector
<i>Map 6:</i>	Gaps in Usable Open Space in the East Sector
<i>Map 7:</i>	Gaps in Usable Open Space in the Southwest Sector
<i>Map 8:</i>	Gaps in Usable Open Space in the Southeast Sector
<i>Map 9:</i>	Pro Parks Levy Projects

### Northwest Sector Open Space Summary

#### **Breathing Room Open Space**

Gaps in Acceptable Level of Breathing Room Open Space - 1/3 acre per 100 residents Carkeek Park, Golden Gardens, Green Lake, Woodland Park and Gas Works Park provide much of the Breathing Room Open Space in the Northwest Sector. Despite the existence of these and other parks in the area, approximately half of Northwest Seattle is deficient in the acceptable level of Breathing Room Open Space. As is the case in most of the city's six sectors, areas deficient in Breathing Room Open Space often coincide with areas zoned for multi-family development such as urban villages. This pattern of deficiency is repeated in Northwest Seattle and includes areas within and around the Bitter Lake, Aurora-Licton, Ballard, Fremont and Wallingford urban villages, and to a lesser extent, the Crown Hill and Green Lake urban villages.

Gaps in Desirable Level of Breathing Room Open Space - 1 acre per 100 residents
Approximately three-fourths of the Northwest Sector becomes deficient in Breathing
Room Open Space at the desirable level. Areas that turn from sufficient at the acceptable
level to deficient at the desirable level of Breathing Room Open Space include the
residential neighborhoods around Haller Lake and neighborhoods between Golden
Gardens and Carkeek parks. As discussed in the Methodology section, open space from
Green Lake Park, which is actually part of tract 46, was re-apportioned to tracts 27 and
36 in calculations of Breathing Room Open Space. Even with this addition of open
space, these tracts become deficient at the desirable level.

#### **Usable Open Space**

# Gaps in Single Family Usable Open Space – 1/2 acre within 1/2 mile of households in single family areas

The Northwest Sector contains some of the most significant gaps in single family Usable Open Space in the city. Although over half of the single family areas outside of urban villages are within 1/2 mile of Usable Open Space, large gaps appear in the northwest corner of the sector south of The Highlands near the Llandover Woods natural area, and in Broadview northeast of the Greenwood/Phinney village. The largest area of deficiency appears in the neighborhoods in northeast Ballard north of NW 45<sup>th</sup> and south of NW 85<sup>th</sup> that are east of 15<sup>th</sup> Ave NW and west of Phinney Ridge.

#### Gaps in Urban Village Usable Open Space

- <u>Bitter Lake Village (Hub Urban Village)</u>: Village residents near Bitter Lake Playfield, many of whom live in multi-family and neighborhood/commercial zoned areas, are served within 1/8 mile of the playfield. However, over three-fourths of the village is outside the 1/8 mile service area of the Bitter Lake Playfield, the sole Usable Open Space in the village.
- <u>Aurora-Licton (Residential Urban Village)</u>: Approximately half of the Aurora–Licton urban village is not served at the 1/4 mile service level of Usable Open

Space. Around three-fourths of the village is not served at the 1/8 mile level. Residents on the west side of the village, many of whom live on the west side of Aurora Avenue North are not served by Usable Open Space.

- Greenwood/Phinney Ridge (Residential Urban Village): Currently, Sandel Park provides the only Usable Open Space to the Greenwood/Phinney urban village. At the 1/4 mile level, approximately half of the village is not served by Usable Open Space. At the 1/8 mile level, almost all of the village, which is predominantly zoned Neighborhood/Commercial, is not served.
- <u>Crown Hill (Residential Urban Village)</u>: The Crown Hill urban village, which is largely single family zoned, is completely covered by the 1/4 mile service areas of Soundview Playfield and Baker Park. At the 1/8 mile level, residents in the midsections of the village, adjacent to the Neighborhood Commercial zoning along 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, are no longer served.
- <u>Ballard (Hub Urban Village)</u>: The Ballard Hub Urban Village is one of the urban villages most deficient in Usable Open Space in the Northwest Sector. The Ballard and Gilman playfields and the Ballard Locks serve residents within 1/8 mile of the parks in the west and southeast sections of the village. Despite these park amenities, approximately three-fourths of the village is not served.
- <u>Green Lake (Residential Urban Village)</u>: Almost the entire Green Lake urban village is within the 1/4 mile service area of Green Lake Park. The exception is a small section of the southeast corner of the village adjacent to I-5. At the 1/8 mile level, eastern and southern portions of the village, which are primarily zoned multi-family, become deficient.
- Fremont (Hub Urban Village): At the 1/8 mile level, over half of the urban village, specifically areas near Aurora Ave N and in and around the village core near Fremont Ave N and N 36th, are deficient in Usable Open Space.
- Wallingford (Residential Urban Village): The majority of the Wallingford Urban Village is located within the 1/4 mile service areas of Woodland Park and the Meridian and Wallingford playfields. Multi-family residents living near the intersection of Aurora Ave N and N 45<sup>th</sup> on the western edge of Wallingford, and those living adjacent to 45<sup>th</sup> N near I-5 are deficient at the 1/4 mile level. At the 1/8 mile level, residents in the middle and western sections of the village become most deficient in Usable Open Space.

#### **Gaps in Both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space**

Unlike most of the city's other sectors, two fairly large single family areas in the Northwest Sector are deficient in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space. One of these gaps occurs to the west of Aurora Avenue North and the Evergreen Cemetery, between NW 105<sup>th</sup> and NW 125<sup>th</sup> streets. An even larger gap appears in northeast

Ballard, west of Phinney Ridge between NE 45<sup>th</sup> and NE 85<sup>th</sup> streets. In urban villages, almost three-fourths of the Bitter Lake, Aurora-Licton and Ballard villages are deficient in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space. Approximately half of the Fremont village is deficient.

#### Future Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in the Northwest Sector

Projects in the Pro Parks levy will help to alleviate gaps in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in the Northwest Sector. The following list highlights levy projects that will contribute open space to northwest neighborhoods that are currently deficient in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space.

#### **Pro Parks Levy Projects that Fill Gaps in Open Space**

- Bitter Lake Reservoir Open Space Development: This project will develop
  from one to two new acres of open space around Bitter Lake Reservoir after
  fences are moved as part of the reservoir covering project. The project will
  provide both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in areas that are
  currently deficient in these types of open space.
- Greenwood Greenhouses (NW 87<sup>th</sup> and Evanston): The new Greenwood Park will provide two acres of new park land for residents in both the Greenwood and Aurora-Licton villages, thus lessening the deficiency in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in these areas.
- Whittier Substation (7605 6<sup>th</sup> Ave NW, 5,150 square feet): Acquisition and development of this City Light substation will add new open space in an area deficient in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space on the west side of Phinney Ridge.
- Monroe Substation (NW 65<sup>th</sup> near 14<sup>th</sup> Ave NW): Acquisition and development of this City Light substation will also help to fill in northeast Ballard's gap in Usable Open Space.
- <u>Ballard Municipal Center Park Development</u>: While negotiations for the site are still underway, this project will provide development funding for the 1.8 acres of new park space anticipated to be acquired in the Ballard urban village commercial core. Much of the Ballard Hub urban village is deficient in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space.
- <u>Wick Property/Slippery Slope Development</u>: Developing park space next to the Fremont Library will contribute needed Breathing Room and Usable Open Space to the Fremont urban village.

#### **Remaining Gaps**

Once these Pro Parks projects are implemented, open space deficiencies will significantly decrease in urban villages and other neighborhoods in Bitter Lake, Aurora-Licton,

Greenwood, northeast and central Ballard and Fremont. However, gaps in open space will remain in various areas including neighborhoods to the south of the Bitter Lake urban village, in the western portions of the Wallingford urban village and in the central part of the University urban village. A gap will also continue to exist in the large lot single family neighborhood in the northwest corner of the city south of The Highlands community.

#### Northeast Sector Open Space Summary

#### **Breathing Room Open Space**

Gaps in Acceptable Level of Breathing Room Open Space- 1/3 acre per 100 residents
Approximately half of the Northeast Sector is deficient in the acceptable level of
Breathing Room Open Space. The Jackson Park Golf Course, the Burke-Gilman Trail,
Magnuson Park, Ravenna Park and Cowen Park are the most significant sources of
Breathing Room Open Space in the sector. Multiple smaller parks and particularly
natural areas associated with Thornton Creek also provide Breathing Room Open Space
to northeast Seattle. Gaps in the acceptable level of Breathing Room Open Space are
apparent in and around the sector's four urban villages and in areas with higher levels of
multi-family zoning. Gaps are also noticeable in the northeast corner of the sector and in
single family areas around Dahl Playfield including parts of the Roosevelt, Maple Leaf,
Wedgwood and Viewridge neighborhoods. Because of the census tract distortions
mentioned previously, areas immediately adjacent to Magnuson Park appear to be
deficient when it is probable that nearby neighbors benefit from the park's Breathing
Room Open Space.

Gaps in Desirable Level of Breathing Room Open Space - 1 acre per 100 residents
Most of the Northeast Sector becomes deficient when measured at the desirable level of
Breathing Room Open Space. Exceptions to this include areas sharing census tracts with
the Jackson Park Golf Course, the Nathan Hale and Meadowbrook Playfield complex,
Dahl Playfield and Magnuson Park.

#### **Usable Open Space**

# Gaps in Single Family Usable Open Space – 1/2 acre within 1/2 mile of households in single family areas

Most of the single family areas in Northeast Seattle are within 1/2 acre of Usable Open Space. Gaps in Usable Open Space are apparent, however, in the single family areas to the east of Jackson Park golf course, southeast of the Northgate urban village in Maple Leaf, in the Wedgwood neighborhood around 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast and in the Laurelhurst neighborhood near Webster Point.

#### Gaps in Urban Village Usable Open Space – 1/4 acre within 1/8 to 1/4 mile

- Northgate (Urban Center Village): Except for the area to the west of I-5 around North Seattle Park, the majority of the Northgate village is not served by Usable Open Space.
- <u>Lake City (Hub Urban Village)</u>: Approximately half of the Lake City village, specifically the area to the east of Lake City Way, is not served by Usable Open Space.
- Ravenna (Urban Center Village): Despite Ravenna Park at its north end, most of the Ravenna village is deficient in Usable Open Space.

- <u>University (Urban Center Village)</u>: Except for areas within 1/8 mile of University Playfield in the northwest corner of the village, most of the University Urban Center village is not served by Usable Open Space.
- Roosevelt (Residential Urban Village): Over half of the Roosevelt village, including Roosevelt's commercial hub, is deficient in Usable Open Space.

#### **Gaps in Both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space**

Most of the Northgate and University villages are deficient in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space. Portions of the Lake City and Roosevelt villages, and to a lesser extent the Ravenna village, are also deficient. Deficient areas outside of urban villages include the single family area in Maple Leaf to the southeast of the Northgate village, an area in Wedgwood northeast of Dahl Playfield and a small portion of Laurelhurst north of Webster Point.

#### **Future Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in the Northeast Sector**

Projects in the Pro Parks levy will help to alleviate gaps in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in the Northeast Sector. The following list highlights levy projects that will contribute open space to northeast neighborhoods that are currently deficient in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space.

#### **Pro Parks Levy Projects that Fill Gaps in Open Space**

- Northgate Park Acquisition: Although acquiring the North Metro Park and Ride for open space is a priority, acquiring open space anywhere in the Northgate village to the east of I-5 will help address that area's deficiency in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space.
- North Open Space Acquisitions/Thornton Creek Watershed: While the exact location of parcels to acquire are unknown, the acquisition of more green space in northeast Seattle will help decrease the area's existing deficiency in Breathing Room Open Space.
- <u>Lake City Civic Core Acquisition</u>: This project will increase the size and quality of Albert Davis Park, thus providing more and better Usable Open Space in the Lake City Hub Urban Village.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Ave NE Street End Development: Creating a street end park on Lake Union to the west of the University Bridge will add to Usable Open Space and somewhat lessen the neighborhood's deficiency in Breathing Room Open Space.

#### **Remaining Gaps**

Pro Parks open space acquisition and development projects in the Northgate and Lake City neighborhoods will significantly contribute to the Northeast Sector's open space

network. While it is difficult to gauge the impact of these projects on Breathing Room Open Space, more than half of the sector will be served by Usable Open Space after these projects are implemented. However, open space gaps will remain. In single family neighborhoods, there will still be gaps to the east of Jackson Park golf course, to the southeast of the Northgate urban village, in the Wedgwood neighborhood around 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast and in the Laurelhurst neighborhood near Webster Point. In Northeast Sector urban villages, gaps in open space will remain in portions of the Northgate village, in the eastern half of the Lake City village and in the central part of the University urban village, specifically in areas adjacent to the University of Washington.

### West Sector Open Space Summary

#### **Breathing Room Open Space**

Gaps in Acceptable Level of Breathing Room Open Space- 1/3 acre per 100 residents Discovery Park, Magnolia Boulevard, Interbay park and golf course, Seattle Center and Myrtle Edwards Park are significant Breathing Room Open Space amenities in the West Sector. Because of these and other parks and natural areas, approximately half of the West Sector appears to be sufficient in the acceptable level of Breathing Room Open Space. Areas deficient at the acceptable level correspond to industrial, multi-family and commercially zoned areas near Seattle University, the top of Queen Anne hill and in the densely residential parts of Belltown, Denny Triangle, Pioneer Square and the International District.

Gaps in Desirable Level of Breathing Room Open Space - 1 acre per 100 residents
At the desirable level, approximately three-fourths of the West Sector becomes deficient
in Breathing Room Open Space. Areas that were sufficient at the acceptable level that
become deficient at the desirable level include areas around 34<sup>th</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup> avenues in
Magnolia, the east side of Queen Anne hill, the Westlake area of Lake Union and the
southern part of the Eastlake neighborhood. Areas in the downtown core that were
sufficient at the acceptable level of Breathing Room Open Space because of Waterfront
Park, Piers 62 and 63, Victor Steinbrueck Park and Westlake Park become deficient at the
desirable level.

#### **Usable Open Space**

Gaps in Single Family Usable Open Space – 1/2 acre within 1/2 mile of households in single family areas

All of the single family areas in the West Sector, which are concentrated in Magnolia and Queen Anne, are within 1/2 mile of Usable Open Space.

#### Gaps in Urban Village Usable Open Space

- <u>Upper Queen Anne (Residential Urban Village)</u>: The Queen Anne residential urban village is almost completely served at both the 1/4 and 1/8 mile levels of Usable Open Space because of its proximity to the East and West Queen Anne playfields.
- <u>Uptown Queen Anne (Urban Center Village)</u>: The approximately twenty acres of publicly accessible open space in Seattle Center provides Usable Open Space within 1/8 mile to around half of the Uptown village.
- <u>Eastlake (Residential Urban Village)</u>: South Passage Point Park, Fairview Park and Roger's Playfield provide most of the Eastlake village with Usable Open Space at the 1/4 mile level. At the 1/8 mile level, approximately half of the village is not served by Usable Open Space.

- South Lake Union (Hub Urban Village): Approximately half of the South Lake Union village is outside of the 1/8 mile service areas of South Lake Union Park, Denny Park and Cascade Playground.
- <u>Denny Triangle (Urban Center Village)</u>: Most of the Denny Triangle Village is not served by Usable Open Space. Because Boren-Pike-Pine Park is on the opposite side of I-5 from Denny Triangle, from a qualitative perspective, it appears that only Denny Park actually serves the village at its northwest end.
- <u>Belltown (Urban Center Village)</u>: Approximately half of the Belltown village is outside of the 1/8 mile service area of Myrtle Edwards and Regrade Park.
- <u>Commercial Core (Urban Center Village)</u>: Victor Steinbrueck, Piers 62 and 63 and Freeway Park provide Usable Open Space at the 1/8 mile range for approximately one-third of the Commercial Core, leaving around two-thirds of the urban center village underserved.
- <u>Pioneer Square (Urban Center Village)</u>: Less than half of the Pioneer Square village is served by the 1/8 mile service areas of Pioneer Square Park, Occidental Square and City Hall Park.
- <u>Chinatown/International District (Urban Center Village)</u>: Kobe Terrace, Hing Hay, International Children's Park, Dr. Jose Rizal and Sturgus parks provide Usable Open Space within 1/8 mile of more than half of the Chinatown/International District Village.

#### **Gaps in Both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space**

Although some of the single family areas in Magnolia and Queen Anne are deficient in Breathing Room Open Space, they are all served by Usable Open Space. Therefore, gaps in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space are found only in urban villages. There are gaps in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in all urban villages in the West Sector with the greatest gaps visible in Denny Triangle, Belltown and the Commercial Core.

#### **Future Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in the West Sector**

Projects in the Pro Parks levy and from other sources will help to alleviate gaps in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in the West Sector. The following list highlights projects that will contribute open space to West Sector neighborhoods that are currently deficient in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space.

#### Pro Parks Levy and Other Projects that Fill Gaps in Open Space

- Queen Anne Park Acquisition: Although a site has not yet been selected, this acquisition is intended to provide Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in areas deficient in open space in the Uptown urban center village.
- 4<sup>th</sup> and Ward Park Development: Developing a new park at this City owned site in Uptown will help to address the neighborhood's deficiencies in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space.
- <u>Dexter Pit Park Development</u>: The development of a new park north of the Northeast Queen Anne Greenbelt, will contribute to Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in an area that is currently deficient.
- <u>South Lake Union Park Development</u>: Although some open space exists already at the park, these improvements will increase the size and quality of the open space. The expanded open space will also help to offset the deficiency in the area's Breathing Room Open Space, particularly in the Cascade neighborhood.
- <u>I-5 Open Space Development</u>: Developing a new park in Eastlake will provide significant new Usable Open Space while contributing to an area deficient in Breathing Room Open Space.

\*Olympic Sculpture Garden: Although not funded by the Pro Parks levy, the development of the Seattle Art Museum's sculpture garden will contribute Breathing Room and Usable Open Space to the Belltown and Uptown Queen Anne urban villages.

#### **Remaining Gaps**

Although the implementation of Pro Parks projects in the West Sector will help to diminish open space deficiencies in the area, gaps will still exist. Noteworthy gaps include large portions of Denny Triangle, Belltown and the Commercial Core. As described above, however, the development of the Olympic Sculpture Garden will ease open space deficiencies somewhat for residents in Uptown Queen Anne and Belltown. Smaller gaps in the open space network will also continue to exist in Eastlake, South Lake Union, Pioneer Square and the International District.

### East Sector Open Space Summary

#### **Breathing Room Open Space**

Gaps in Acceptable Level of Breathing Room Open Space- 1/3 acre per 100 residents Although the Washington Park Arboretum, Volunteer Park, and Interlaken Park, as well as multiple medium size parks such as Madrona, Leschi, Frink, Judkins and Sam Smith parks, provide significant open space amenities in the East Sector, over half of the sector is deficient in the acceptable level of Breathing Room Open Space. This is not a surprise considering the multi-family nature of much of the East Sector. It is also not surprising that the areas deficient in the acceptable level of Breathing Room Open Space appear to match the densely populated urban villages of the East Sector.

Gaps in Desirable Level of Breathing Room Open Space - 1 acre per 100 residents Most of the East Sector becomes deficient in Breathing Room Open Space at the desirable level. When measured at this level of Breathing Room Open Space, only areas sharing census tracts with Volunteer Park in North Capitol Hill and Interlaken Park and Montlake Playfield in the Montlake neighborhood are sufficient.

#### **Usable Open Space**

Gaps in Single Family Usable Open Space – 1/2 acre within 1/2 mile of households in single family areas

Unlike most of the city's sectors, only about half of the East Sector is zoned single family. All of these single family areas are within 1/4 mile of parks with Usable Open Space.

#### Gaps in Urban Village Usable Open Space – 1/4 acre within 1/8 to 1/4 mile

- <u>Capitol Hill (Urban Center Village)</u>: In the Capitol Hill village, approximately half of the village is served at the 1/8 mile level because of Tashkent Park and Bobby Morris Playfield. Gaps in Usable Open Space appear on the east side of the village adjacent to I-5, in the area between Volunteer Park and Bobby Morris Playfield and on the west side of the village near 15<sup>th</sup> Ave E.
- <u>Pike/Pine (Urban Center Village)</u>: Although Bobby Morris and Boren-Pike-Pine parks provide Usable Open Space to the village, approximately half of Pike-Pine is deficient is Usable Open Space.
- <u>First Hill (Urban Center Village)</u>: Over half of the First Hill village appears to be deficient in Usable Open Space, particularly in areas on the east side of the village near the Broadway corridor.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue S @ S Jackson Union (Residential Urban Village): Because of Garfield Playfield and the Pratt, Lavizzo and Judkins parks, almost all of the 23<sup>rd</sup> and Jackson-Union residential urban village is within 1/4 mile of Usable

Open Space. At the 1/8 mile level, however, areas in the north, southwest and east parts of the village are not served.

- Madison-Miller (Residential Urban Village): Miller Playfield and Prentis Frazier Park serve most of the village at the 1/4 mile level. At the 1/8 mile level, only the northern half of the village is served, leaving the multi-family areas adjacent to E Madison Street in the south and southeast areas of the village under served by Usable Open Space.
- 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Urban Center Village): The 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue village, which has already met its Comprehensive Plan population target, is the East Sector urban village most deficient in Usable Open Space. At the 1/8 mile level, the Spring Street Mini-Park provides Usable Open Space to only a small section of the northeast corner of the village, leaving more than three-fourths of the village not served.

#### Gaps in Both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space

Because all of the single-family zoned neighborhoods in the East Sector are served by Usable Open Space, the only gaps in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space occur in urban villages. The 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue village has the greatest deficiency of Usable Open Space and is wholly deficient in the desirable level of Breathing Room Open Space. Portions of the Capitol Hill, Pike-Pine and First Hill Villages are also deficient in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space. One quarter to one half of the Madison-Miller and 23<sup>rd</sup> and Jackson-Union Residential Urban Villages are also deficient in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space.

#### **Future Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in the Northwest Sector**

Projects in the Pro Parks levy and from other sources will help to alleviate gaps in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in the East Sector. The following list highlights projects that will contribute open space to East Sector neighborhoods that are currently deficient in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space.

#### Pro Parks Levy Projects that Fill Gaps in Open Space

- <u>Capitol Hill Park Acquisitions</u>: Although the sites of the one or two acquisitions possible in this project have not yet been determined, any acquisition is intended to alleviate deficiencies in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in Capitol Hill.
- <u>Central Area Park Acquisition (Near Denny and 23<sup>rd</sup>):</u> If a view park near Denny and 23<sup>rd</sup> is acquired, the acquisition would help to fill deficiencies in Usable Open Space in the 23<sup>rd</sup> and Union-Jackson village.
- First Hill Park Acquisition (Site at Terry Ave and Cherry St): This acquisition will help to fill open space gaps in the First Hill village near the Frye Museum.

- <u>Bellevue Substation Acquisition, (210 Bellevue E, 11,640 square feet)</u>: This acquisition will add open space to an area currently deficient in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in Capitol Hill.
- <u>Lincoln Reservoir Park Development</u>: Developing open space over Capitol Hill's Lincoln Reservoir will provide significant new park space to areas in the Capitol Hill and Pike/Pine villages that are currently deficient in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space.
- Spruce and Squire Park Development (Boren and E Fir): Developing this ESD-owned parcel into new park space will partially contribute to the 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue village's deficiencies in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space.

#### **Remaining Gaps**

Although the Pro Parks projects earmarked for the East Sector will fill many existing gaps in open space, particularly in Capitol Hill, some gaps will remain. After the Pro Parks projects are implemented, around half of the Pike-Pine neighborhood will still be deficient in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space. While ESD's Spruce and Squire Park property will be developed into park land, approximately half of the 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue urban village will still remain deficient in publicy owned Usable and Breathing Room Open Space. Smaller gaps will also remain in and around the Madison-Miller village.

### Southwest Sector Open Space Summary

#### **Breathing Room Open Space**

Gaps in Acceptable Level of Breathing Room Open Space- 1/3 acre per 100 residents
Southwest Seattle is one of the sectors least deficient in the acceptable level of Breathing
Room Open Space. In the case of Southwest, under half of the sector is deficient. Alki
Beach Park, Schmitz Preserve Park, the West Seattle stadium, golf course and Camp
Long complex, Lincoln Park, Westcrest Park and the multiple large holdings of green
belts and natural areas in the sector contribute to its relatively high level of Breathing
Room Open Space. The areas of deficiency in the sector correspond somewhat to the
Neighborhood/Commercial and Multi-family zoned areas adjacent to California Avenue
SW and southern portions of Delridge Way SW. The Morgan Junction urban village is
completely deficient, while large parts of the Admiral, West Seattle Junction and
Westwood-Highland Park urban villages appear deficient.

Gaps in Desirable Level of Breathing Room Open Space - 1 acre per 100 residents
At the desirable level of Breathing Room Open Space, over half of the Southwest Sector becomes deficient. Areas that become deficient at this level include the multi-family zoned neighborhoods extending north and south of Alki Point and areas around the Schmitz Reserve Park. The single family area in the very southwest corner of the sector, neighborhoods in and around the South Park urban village, and the predominantly industrially zoned Georgetown neighborhood also become deficient.

#### **Usable Open Space**

# Gaps in Single Family Usable Open Space – 1/2 acre within 1/2 mile of households in single family areas

Almost all single-family neighborhoods in the Southwest Sector are within 1/2 mile of Usable Open Space. Significant exceptions to this are single family areas northwest of Morgan Junction near Beach Drive Southwest and the neighborhoods in the southwest corner of the sector. Gaps exist to a lesser extent in single family areas north of the West Seattle Junction and east of High Point in Delridge.

#### Gaps in Urban Village Usable Open Space – 1/4 acre within 1/8 to 1/4 mile

- Admiral (Residential Urban Village): Approximately half of the Admiral urban village is zoned Neighborhood-Commercial and Multi-family. The majority of the village is served at the 1/4 mile level. At the 1/8 mile level, Hiawatha Playfield provides Usable Open Space to only about half of the village residents, including many in the Neighborhood-Commercial and Multi-family zoned hub of the village.
- West Seattle Junction (Hub Urban Village): In the West Seattle Junction Village, only a small portion of residents in the northeast corner of the village are served at the 1/8 mile level. Usable Open Space for the Junction village is provided in part by the open spaces around the West Seattle stadium and

Camp Long. The West Seattle golf course is not counted or measured as Usable Open Space.

- Morgan Junction (Residential Urban Village): Approximately one-fourth of the Morgan village, an area which is predominantly single family, is served at the 1/4 mile level of Usable Open Space. None of the village is served at the 1/8 mile level.
- Westwood-Highland (Residential Urban Village): Around two-thirds of the Westwood-Highland Park urban village is outside of the 1/4 mile service area of Usable Open Space. At the 1/8 mile level, most of the village, except for the area near Roxhill Park in the southwest corner of the village, is not served.
- <u>South Park (Residential Urban Village)</u>: Approximately one-fourth of the South Park urban village is not served at the 1/4 mile level of Usable Open Space. Under one-half of the village is served at the 1/8 mile level, particularly areas in the middle and eastern sections of the village.

#### Gaps in Both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space

Although many single family areas in the Southwest Sector are deficient at the desirable level of Breathing Room Open Space, most of these areas lie within Usable Open Space service areas. Gaps in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space exist in the West Seattle, Morgan and Westwood-Highland Park urban villages and to a lesser extent in the South Park urban village. There are also gaps in the single family neighborhoods northwest of Morgan Junction near Beach Drive Southwest and the neighborhoods in the southwest corner of the sector.

#### **Future Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in the Southwest Sector**

Projects in the Pro Parks levy will help to alleviate gaps in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in the Southwest Sector. The following list highlights levy projects that will contribute open space to southwest neighborhoods that are currently deficient in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space.

#### **Pro Parks Levy Projects that Fill Gaps in Open Space**

- <u>California Substation Acquisition (4304 SW Dakota St, 14,685 square feet)</u>: While this site includes a building, the acquisition will provide some open space for residents in and around the West Seattle Junction urban village in an area deficient in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space.
- Morgan Substation Acquisition (4118 SW Morgan St, 4,520 square feet): Although under 1/4 acre, this acquisition will add open space in and around the Morgan Junction urban village area which is deficient in Usable and Breathing Room Open Space.

- Alki Substation Acquisition (5062 SW Admiral Way, 10,000 square feet): This acquisition will add to Breathing Room and to a lesser extent Usable Open Space in deficient areas within and to the west of the Admiral urban village.
- Sylvan Way Acquisition: This project will contribute somewhat to Breathing Room Open Space in the High Point area.
- <u>Georgetown Park Development (6400 Corson, size)</u>: Developing this newly acquired open space will help alleviate the deficiencies in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in Georgetown's residentially zoned neighborhoods.
- Myrtle Reservoir Open Space Development: Creating new open space around the reservoir will contribute to both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in deficient areas between High Point Playfield and the Morgan Junction urban village, particularly on the west side of the 34<sup>th</sup> Ave SW arterial.

#### **Remaining Gaps**

Projects from the Pro Parks levy will help to lessen gaps in open space in and around the West Seattle, Morgan and Admiral urban villages. After these projects have been implemented, however, some deficiencies in the Southwest Sector's open space network will still exist. Gaps will remain in the single family areas northwest of the Morgan Junction village adjacent to Puget Sound and in the very southwest corner of the sector. Gaps will also remain in the West Seattle Junction, Morgan Junction and Westwood-Highland urban villages.

### Southeast Sector Open Space Summary

#### **Breathing Room Open Space**

Gaps in Acceptable Level of Breathing Room Open Space- 1/3 acre per 100 residents Like the Southwest Sector, less than half of the Southeast Sector appears to be deficient at the acceptable level of Breathing Room Open Space. The Jefferson Park golf course, Genessee Park, Lake Washington Boulevard, Seward Park, and several fairly large parks and natural areas in the south end of the sector provide much of the Breathing Room Open Space in the area. Areas deficient in the acceptable level of Breathing Room Open Space include southerly portions of Columbia City, and areas clustered around the MLK at Holly urban village between I-5 and Seward Park.

Gaps in Desirable Level of Breathing Room Open Space - 1 acre per 100 residents At the desirable level of Breathing Room Open Space, just over half of the sector becomes deficient. Areas that were sufficient at the acceptable level that become deficient at the desirable level include northerly parts of the North Beacon and North Rainier urban villages and areas within and around the Rainier Beach urban village.

#### **Usable Open Space**

# Gaps in Single Family Usable Open Space – 1/2 acre within 1/2 mile of households in single family areas

Almost all single family neighborhoods outside of urban villages in the Southeast Sector are served by Usable Open Space. The only areas not served are the neighborhoods northwest of the Rainier Beach Urban Village adjacent to I-5 around the East Duwamish Greenbelt, and in the southwest corner of the sector.

#### Gaps in Urban Village Usable Open Space – 1/4 acre within 1/8 to 1/4 mile

- North Beacon Hill (Residential Urban Village): Approximately one quarter of the North Beacon urban village is not served at the 1/4 mile level of Usable Open Space. At the 1/8 mile level, the very northern part of the village, which is zoned multi-family, is served by the Beacon Hill Playground, but around half of the village is underserved. The Jefferson Park golf course is not counted or measured as Usable Open Space.
- North Rainier Avenue (Hub Urban Village): At the 1/8 mile level, except for areas in the northeast and southeast section of the village, approximately two-thirds of the village is deficient in Usable Open Space.
- <u>Columbia City (Residential Urban Village)</u>: Rainier Playfield and Columbia Park provide approximately half of the Columbia City urban village with Usable Open Space at the 1/4 mile level. At the 1/8 mile level, around onethird of the village is deficient.

- MLK@Holly Street (Residential Urban Village): At the 1/4 mile level, almost the entire village is served by Usable Open Space. The areas not served are located at the northwest and southwest ends of the village. At the 1/8 mile level, approximately half of the village becomes deficient, specifically areas in the middle of the village on either side of MLK Jr. Way S.
- Rainier Beach (Residential Urban Village): Except for its southwest corner, most of the Rainier Beach village is served by Usable Open Space at the 1/4 mile level. At the 1/8 mile level, approximately half of the village, including multi-family areas in the southwest portion of the village, is not served.

#### **Gaps in Both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space**

Most of the Southeast Sector's single family areas are within 1/2 mile of Usable Open Space. However, single family areas adjacent to I-5 near the East Duwamish Greenbelt, and areas in the southwest corner of the sector, are deficient in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space. Portions of all urban villages in the sector are also deficient in both types of open space, although these gaps are fairly small.

### Future Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in the Southeast Sector

Projects in the Pro Parks levy and from other sources will help to alleviate gaps in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space in the Southeast Sector. The following list highlights projects that will contribute open space to southeast neighborhoods that are currently deficient in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space.

#### Pro Parks Levy and Other Projects that Fill Gaps in Open Space

- York Substation Acquisition (3650 Renton Ave S.): This acquisition will help decrease the deficiency in Usable Open Space in neighborhoods east of Jefferson Park.
- <u>Beacon Reservoir Park Development</u>: Although there is some Usable Open Space at Jefferson Park, developing new park land once the north reservoir is decommissioned will add approximately 12 acres and contribute greatly to the size and quality of the park.

\* Hitt's Hill: Although not a Pro Parks project, the City is working with the Columbia City community to purchase a property located between 37th and 39th avenues south and Brandon and Dawson streets in Columbia City for park purposes. This new park would add Breathing Room and Usable Open Space to neighboring communities.

#### **Remaining Gaps**

The increased size of Jefferson Park and the acquisition of the York Substation will help to fill open space gaps in or near the Beacon Hill, North Rainier and Columbia City urban

villages. However, after these Pro Parks projects are implemented, gaps will remain most significantly in the North Rainier urban village and in the single family areas adjacent to I-5 near the East Duwamish Greenbelt.

# SUMMARY OF GAPS IN BREATHING ROOM AND USABLE OPEN SPACE

The following discussion provides an overview of the gaps in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space identified in the sector open space summaries.

#### **Breathing Room Open Space**

Areas in Seattle most deficient in Breathing Room Open Space include much of the north end of the city and significant portions of the East and West Sectors. While the south end of the city is the least deficient in Breathing Room Open Space, approximately half of the Southeast and Southwest Sectors are still deficient.

#### **Usable Open Space**

#### Single Family Areas

Most of the single family areas in the city are served by Usable Open Space. Exceptions to this in the north end include the northwest corner of the city, areas south of the Bitter Lake Urban Village, parts of northeast Ballard and in the Jackson Park and Wedgwood neighborhoods. Deficiencies in Seattle's single family neighborhoods in the south end of the city include areas northwest of the Morgan Junction village adjacent to Puget Sound, and at the very southwest and southeast ends of the city. Single family neighborhoods in the East and West Sectors are currently served by Usable Open Space.

#### **Urban Villages**

Most of the thirty-eight urban villages contain gaps in terms of residents' proximity to Usable Open Space. The extent of the severity of gaps in urban village Usable Open Space, however, varies. While most of the Crown Hill, Green Lake and Upper Queen Anne villages are served by Usable Open Space, almost all of the Northgate, University, Ballard, Denny Triangle, 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and West Seattle Junction villages have significant deficiencies in Usable Open Space.

#### Gaps in Both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space

There are gaps in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space within and outside of urban villages. The most significant of these concurrent gaps are located in single family areas south of Bitter Lake, in northeast Ballard, west of the Morgan village in West Seattle and in the southwest corner of the Southwest Sector. Almost all urban villages have some deficiency in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space. The most notable of these deficiencies in the north end occur in the Bitter Lake, Aurora-Licton, Ballard, Northgate and University urban villages. In the central and southern areas of the city, urban villages with large gaps in both Breathing Room and Usable Open Space include Denny Triangle, Belltown, the Commercial Core and the West Seattle Junction villages.

# HOW THE CITY IS RESPONDING TO GAPS IN SEATTLE'S OPEN SPACE NETWORK

In recent years, Seattle Parks and Recreation has pursued policies and actions to increase open space amenities for the city's growing population. The following sections highlight how Seattle Parks continues to work toward filling gaps in Seattle's open space network.

#### Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000

Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000 addresses many of the open space gaps noted in this report. Many projects anticipated in its Six Year Action Plan became part of the recently approved \$198.2 million Pro Parks levy.

#### **Pro Parks Levy**

The Pro Parks levy will provide funding to respond to gaps in open space by providing for over one hundred park acquisition and improvement projects. Pro Parks projects that will significantly boost open space in areas deficient in Breathing Room and Usable Open Space are noted in this report in the sector open space summaries. There will also be an opportunity fund to provide for other acquisition and development projects beyond those currently named in the levy.

#### **Seattle School District**

Along with the implementation of Pro Parks projects, Seattle Parks and Recreation will continue to seek publicly owned property for community use as open space, particularly school grounds. The Parks Department currently works in cooperation with the Seattle School District, within the terms set by the recently renewed Joint Use Agreement, in planning and jointly using separately owned facilities and grounds for the benefit of students and community members. There is already significant public use of school grounds, particularly at Nathan Hale, Jane Adams, Sealth, Rainier Beach and Ingraham high schools, as well as at certain elementary school sites, such as Decatur, John Rogers and others.

#### **Grey to Green Program**

The Grey to Green Program contributes funding to community-sponsored outdoor improvements to school grounds which benefit both the school and surrounding community. The program is administered by the Parks Department as a means to enhance school grounds and provide a greater variety, and better distribution, of park-like facilities throughout the city. Recent and current projects include improvements at T.T. Minor, Orca, Pathfinder, Pinehurst-Alternative School #1 and other schools.

#### **Neighborhood Matching Fund and other Fund Sources**

In addition to implementing Pro Parks levy projects, and working with the Seattle School District, Seattle Parks and Recreation will continue its efforts to increase open space and outdoor recreation opportunities by working with the Neighborhood Matching Fund and other granting sources to improve and when possible expand the city's open space network.